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Patent

Docket No.: PR-37

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Udo Schütz
Serial No. : 10/017,057
Filed : December 14, 2001
For : TRANSPORT AND STORAGE CONTAINER FOR LIQUIDS
Examiner : Stephen J. Castellano
Art Unit : 3727

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

The attention of the Examiner and of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference listed on attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the references are forwarded herewith.

The references were cited in an office action in a corresponding German application.

05/28/2003 BSAYASII 00000031 10017057

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The German examiner relied on a combination of DE 94 07 343 U1 and DE 42 09 781 C2 in rejecting claim 1.

Specifically, DE 93 07 343 U1 was cited for showing a transport and storage container for liquids with an inner container of plastic material having a fill socket 3, an outlet socket 13, a removal fitting , a lower bottom 11 configured as a drainage bottom, a central, flat drainage channel 12 with a bottom sump adjacent the outlet socket, an outer mantle of a metal grate 6, 7, 8, a pallet-shaped underframe 9 with center legs 25, 26 and corner legs 27, configured to be handled by transport devices.

Both references were relied on for showing an inwardly projecting dome-shaped bulge.

DE 42 09 781 C2 was additionally cited for showing two forward bottom portions arranged on opposed sides of the bulge, wherein the two forward bottom portions ascend from the lower bottom toward the front wall and the corner areas adjoining the front wall or toward the front wall and the side walls and the corner areas adjoining the front wall and the side walls, respectively, with drainage surfaces for removing residual liquid from the front bottom area of the inner container into the outlet socket of the inner container.

DE 42 09 781 C2 2as also relied on for showing the connecting edges of claim 2, and the configuration of support elements in accordance with claims 4-6. DE 39 05 976 A1 was cited for showing the connecting edges as recited in claim 3 and the configuration of support elements of claims 4-6.

A check in the amount of \$180.00 to cover the required fee is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

FRIEDRICH KUEFFNER

Dated: May 21, 2003



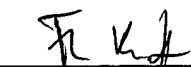
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 21, 2003.

By:



Friedrich Kueffner

Date: May 21, 2003